

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A blind fastener comprising:
a mandrel and a monolithic cylindrical body mounted on an elongate stem of said mandrel so as to extend co-axially about a central axis of said blind fastener;
said body having a pre-formed radially enlarged flange at one end thereof and a tail end at the opposite end for insertion through a hole in a work piece having an outer surface;
said mandrel having a mandrel head in operative engagement with said tail end of said fastener for transmitting force thereto during setting of said fastener,
said body, annularly disposed about the mandrel, having first and second generally cylindrical portions, each having differing uniform external diameters and a radially extending shoulder therebetween, such that the external diameter of the second portion adjacent the flange is greater than the external diameter of the first portion adjacent the tail end and said body between said shoulder; and
a sleeve of resilient material disposed about the second portion, wherein said radially extending shoulder contacts said outer surface of said work piece and said shoulder is configured to bear against a portion of the outer surface, and whereby after said setting of said fastener said first portion is deformed and said sleeve of resilient material remains exposed beyond said outer surface for providing a stop surface, and

said sleeve of resilient material defines an inner surface which is in uninterrupted contact with and covers only the entire second portion between an exterior surface of the work piece and the flange.

2. (Previously Presented) A blind fastener as claimed in claim 1, wherein said sleeve of resilient material disposed about the second portion is cylindrical.

3. (Previously Presented) A blind fastener as claimed in claim 2, wherein said cylindrical sleeve of resilient material has an external diameter equal to or less than the outer diameter of said flange.

4. (Previously Presented) The blind fastener of claim 1, wherein the external diameter of said body adjacent said flange is at least 1.4 times the external diameter of the body adjacent said tail end.

5. (Previously Presented) The blind fastener of claim 1, wherein said shoulder extends perpendicular to said central axis.

6. (Previously Presented) The blind fastener of claim 1, wherein said shoulder is positioned between 25% and 75% of the length of said body remote from said flange.

7. (Previously Presented) The blind fastener of claim 1, wherein the resilient material has a hardness of between 50 and 80 shore A hardness.

8. (Previously Presented) The blind fastener of claim 7, wherein the resilient material has a hardness of between 60 and 70 shore A hardness.

9. (Previously Presented) The blind fastener of claim 1, wherein the resilient material is plastic.

10. (Previously Presented) The blind fastener of claim 1, wherein an end of the body opposite the flange end is open.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) The blind fastener of claim 1, wherein the resilient material is rubber.

13-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly comprising:
a work piece defining an opening, the work piece having a first bearing surface adjacent to the opening and a second bearing surface obverse the first bearing surface;

a rivet body having a first portion having a cylindrical surface and a second portion having a second cylindrical surface, and a shoulder disposed there between, said shoulder being generally perpendicular to the first and second cylindrical surfaces;

a flange integrally formed on a second portion; and

a sleeve of resilient material disposed about the second cylindrical surface, said sleeve having a terminal end adjacent the shoulder; wherein in a set configuration, the shoulder engages the first bearing surface and the sleeve of material defines an inner surface which is in uninterrupted contact with and covers the entire second portion between the work piece and the flange, and wherein the first portion is deformable to engage the second bearing surface, said second portion remaining undeformed when the rivet is in the set configuration.